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Docket No. 87335.3500

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Robert A. BLAKLEY *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/056,027

Filed: January 28, 2002

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: **SEAL SHAFT SHUTOFF DEVICE AND METHOD**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0053] with the following new paragraph:

[0053] Referring now to FIGS. 4 and 5, a partial cross-sectional view of a seal shaft shutoff apparatus 100, disposed around a rotatable shaft 105, is shown in accordance with an alternative embodiment of the present invention. Whereas FIG. 4 depicts the apparatus 100 in an operating position, FIG. 5 depicts the apparatus 100 in a shutoff position.

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